



# B.R.P.A. Journal

...An Occasional Publication of News

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## *Eyewitness to Murder*

Just when we feel comfortable knowing what happened when George Washington's Virginia Militia and Native American allies attacked a French party at the Jumonville Glen on May 28, 1754, along comes Dr. David Preston with the newly discovered account of an Ohio Iroquois warrior that, says BRPA board president Dr. Walt Powell by way of understatement, "should generate some conversation."

That's how we will end Friday, October 31, 2014. We will begin it Friday morning with our annual bus-tour exploration of the Braddock Road. The bus leaves Jumonville at 8 A.M. and makes stops along the historic road prior to arriving in North Braddock, PA for a walking tour and visit to the Braddock's Battlefield History Center at 609 Sixth Street. Norm Baker, author of *Braddock's Road: Mapping the British Expedition from Alexandria to the Monongahela* and BRPA board member Robert Nipar will once again offer enlightening commentary about Braddock's Road and the progress of the army toward its rendezvous with destiny right there in North Braddock. Continental breakfast and a box lunch will be provided to participants of the tour and the bus returns to Jumonville at 4 P.M. Please note: pre-registration is required for the Friday bus tour.

At 7:00 P.M. the seminar convenes in Wesley Hall for registration and a welcome by BRPA President Walt Powell and the other board members. Light refreshments will be provided, and attendees will get a first glimpse at vendor items. Then comes David Preston's lecture, "An Ohio Iroquois Account of the Jumonville Affair and Fort Necessity," which is a prelude to David's forthcoming book on Braddock's Defeat to be published by the Oxford University Press. This book, says Walt Powell, "will likely be the definitive study for the next generation, as it contains a great deal of very exciting new material." Following the Preston lecture and Q&A, dealers will remain open until 9 P.M.

The seminar continues Saturday morning, November 1, with registration opening at 8 a.m. in Wesley Hall, and coffee, donuts, and fresh fruit offered for a quick wake-up. Walt Powell will offer introductory remarks followed by the keynote address, "Indian Captive in a Red Coat: The Military Career of Peter Williamson" by Dr. Timothy Shannon, professor of history at Gettysburg College. Dr. Shannon is the author of several important books, including *Indians and Colonists at the Crossroads of Empire* (Cornell, 2000); *Iroquois Diplomacy of the Early American Frontier* (Penguin, 2008); and his latest, *The*

*Seven Years' War in North America: A Brief History with Documents* (Bedford, 2014).

Following the morning break, BRPA welcomes Dr. Len Travers, chair of the UMass Dartmouth History Department at the University of Massachusetts. There he specializes in Colonial, Revolutionary, and New England History. Len's topic will be, "Kill'd or Taken: A Lost Patrol of 1756." Len is the author of *Celebrating the Fourth: Independence Day and the Rights of Nationalism in the Early Republic* (University of Massachusetts Press, 1999).

After lunch, the BRPA will ask attendees to vote on officers nominated to serve on the board of directors in 2015. At 1:45 P.M., presentations resume with "The Floggings Will Continue Until Morale Improves: Military Justice in the British Army in North America, 1755-1783" by Colonel William R. Hagan (U.S. Army, Retired) Bill served for 42 years as a judge advocate in the JAG Corps and has written extensively about issues related to law and the U.S. military.

Next up will be a lecture by our president, Walt Powell, on a topic close to BRPA hearts, "To Care for their Widows, and Orphans: The Soldiers' Orphans School Movement and Jumonville, 1864-1908." Walt will be joined by some remarkable V.I.P.s for this presentation: Carrie, Bill, and Ann Waters, descendents of Asa Waters, the first superintendent of the Pennsylvania Soldiers' Orphans School. They will be bringing along valuable archival material from the School to accompany Walt's presentation.

This year's seminar also features the silent auction of rare books and other history-related items. Proceeds, as always, benefit BRPA's ongoing initiatives. We look forward to seeing you on Friday and Saturday, October 31 and November 1, for the 26th annual Braddock Road Preservation Association history seminar!

## *Congratulations to the Authors!*

BRPA is pleased to announce that two of our regulars and past presenters are thriving in the literary world. Doug Cubbison's latest book, *All Canada in the Hands of the British: Gen. Jeffrey Amherst and the 1760 Campaign to Conquer New France*, was published in hardcover by the University of Oklahoma Press this past March and will be available at the seminar.

Martin West, who served as director of Fort Ligonier for 30 years prior to his retirement in 2011, has had his manuscript on Col. Henry Bouquet's 1764 campaign against the Ohio Country Native Americans accepted by Kent State University Press for release in 2016.

